Appl. No.

Filed

September 28, 1999

requirement, the Applicant provisionally elects Claims 1, 5-47, 56-59 and 63-69 (i.e., Group I) for examination and cancels Claims 48-55, 60-62, 70 and 71 without prejudice.

Since the Applicant has responded to the requirement for restriction and has made the required election, the Applicant submits that the application is now in order for action on the merits. If the Examiner finds any impediment to the prompt allowance of the elected claims that could be clarified with a telephone conference, the Examiner is respectfully requested to initiate the same with the undersigned.

Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

By:

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Ebrury 24, 2003